

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested.

Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 1-10 pending in the application. In response to the Office Action (Paper No.12), Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims define patentable subject matter.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Imai (EP 0898421). Claims 2 and 8-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Imai in view of Luke (USP 6,218,668). Claims 3, 5 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Imai in view of Nelson et al. (USP 5,508,507, hereinafter "Nelson"). Claims 4 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Imai in view of Luke and Nelson. Applicant respectfully traverses the § 103 rejections.

In the Amendment filed June 13, 2002, Applicant argued that Imai (Figure 15A-15C) does not teach or suggest a secondary layer including the secondary line electrodes and the main line electrodes arranged in parallel to one another, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to modify the electrostatic recording apparatus (Figure 15A-15C) of Imai to include the claimed secondary layer. That is, Imai (Figure 15A-15C) teaches that the conductive comb teeth 5a of the second conductive layer 5 and the conductive comb teeth 8a of the third conductive layer 8 are arranged in different layers and are perpendicular to one another.

In response, the Examiner now asserts that Figure 13A of Imai for disclosing all of the features of independent claim 1. Specifically, the Examiner contends the claimed second electrode layer can be construed to read on the second conductive layer 5 including the conductive comb teeth 5a separated by the interspaces 5b, wherein the conductive comb teeth 5a

correspond to both the main line electrodes and the secondary line electrodes. That is, the Examiner appears to be taking the position that the odd-numbered comb teeth correspond to the main line electrodes and the even-number electrodes correspond to the secondary line electrodes. Further, the Examiner maintains that since comb teeth 5a (corresponding to the main line electrodes and the secondary line electrodes) are the same in width and transmittance, Imai teaches that "a width W_b of each of said main line electrodes, a transmission factor P_b of each of said main line electrodes with respect to said reading light, a width W_c of each of said secondary line electrodes, and transmission factor P_c of each of said secondary line electrodes with respect to said reading light satisfy a condition equation of $(W_b \times P_b) / (W_c \times P_c) \geq 1$ ", as claimed.

By this Amendment, Applicant has amended independent claim 1 to require that the main line electrodes and the secondary line electrodes have different transmission factors with respect to the reading light. In particular, claim 1 recites "wherein a width W_b of each of said main line electrodes, a transmission factor P_b of each of said main line electrodes with respect to said reading light, a width W_c of each of said secondary line electrodes, and transmission factor P_c of each of said secondary line electrodes with respect to said reading light satisfy a condition equation of $(W_b \times P_b) / (W_c \times P_c) \geq 1$, and said transmission factor P_b and said transmission factor P_c are different values."

Applicant respectfully submits that Imai does not teach or suggest the conductive comb teeth 5a of the second conductive layer 5 in Figure 13A have different transmission factors with respect to the reading light. Although the Examiner may believe that the claimed invention reads on Imai for the case that every other ones of the line electrodes 5a to be main line electrodes and

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the other line electrodes 5a to be secondary line electrodes, the secondary line electrodes of the present invention have functions and properties that are different from those of the main line electrodes, as now required by the claims (i.e., $P_b \neq P_c$). Therefore, the Examiner's reasoning is inappropriate in assuming some of the line electrodes 5a of the same functions and properties to be the main line electrodes and the other line electrodes 5a to be the secondary line electrodes.

Similarly, although Luke (Figures 8A and 8B) discloses utilizing parallel grid electrodes having different widths, Luke does not teach or suggest that the grid electrodes have different transmission factors with respect to the reading light, as claimed.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1, as well as dependent claims 2-10, should be allowable because the applied references do not teach or suggest all of the features of the claims.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APPENDIX
VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims are amended as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A solid state radiation detector comprising:
 - a first electrode layer having permeability with respect to recording radiation, or light emitted by excitation of said radiation;
 - a recording photoconductive layer which exhibits electric conduction when irradiated with said recording radiation or said light;
 - a reading photoconductive layer which exhibits electric conduction when irradiated with reading light; and
 - a second electrode layer comprising a plurality of main line electrodes and a plurality of secondary line electrodes, wherein said main and secondary line electrodes are alternately arranged in parallel to one another;
- said first electrode layer, said recording photoconductive layer, said reading photoconductive layer, and said second electrode layer being stacked in the recited order;
- said main line electrodes having permeability with respect to said reading light, said secondary line electrodes outputting an electrical signal which has a level proportional to a quantity of latent image charge stored in a charge storage portion formed between said recording photoconductive layer and said reading photoconductive layer;
- wherein a width W_b of each of said main line electrodes, a transmission factor P_b of each of said main line electrodes with respect to said reading light, a width W_c of each of said

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secondary line electrodes, and transmission factor P_c of each of said secondary line electrodes with respect to said reading light satisfy a condition equation of $(W_b \times P_b) / (W_c \times P_c) \geq 1$, and said transmission factor P_b and said transmission factor P_c are different values.